

PATENT
USSN 09/721,506
002616US; 018-210c

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 to 72. CANCELLED

73. CANCELLED

74. CANCELLED

75. *(Currently amended)* An isolated, synthetic, substantially pure, or recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a telomerase reverse transcriptase (TRT) protein, or the exact complement of said nucleic acid sequence;

wherein said TRT protein has telomerase catalytic activity when complexed with a telomerase RNA; RNA, and contains an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to the full length of SEQ. ID NO:2.

76. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 75, comprising a promoter sequence operably linked to the sequence that encodes the protein.

77. *(Previously presented)* An isolated cell comprising the recombinant polynucleotide of claim 75.

78. *(Previously presented)* The cell of claim 77, which is a eukaryotic cell.

79. CANCELLED

80. *(Withdrawn)* A method of increasing the proliferative capacity of a cell, comprising expressing in the cell a polynucleotide according to claim 75.

81. CANCELLED

82. CANCELLED

83. *(Currently amended)* An isolated, synthetic, substantially pure, or recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a TRT protein, or the exact complement of said nucleic acid sequence; sequence;

wherein said TRT protein has telomerase catalytic activity when complexed with a telomerase RNA; RNA, and contains an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to the full length of SEQ. ID NO:2.

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84. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 83, comprising a promoter sequence operably linked to the sequence that encodes said TRT protein.
85. *(Previously presented)* An isolated cell comprising the recombinant polynucleotide of claim 83.
86. *(Previously presented)* The cell of claim 85, which is a eukaryotic cell.
87. CANCELLED
88. *(Withdrawn)* A method of increasing the proliferative capacity of a cell, comprising expressing in the cell a polynucleotide according to claim 83.
89. CANCELLED
90. CANCELLED
91. *(Currently amended)*) An isolated, synthetic, substantially pure, or recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a TRT protein, or the exact complement of said nucleic acid ~~sequence~~, sequence;
wherein said TRT protein has telomerase catalytic activity when complexed with a telomerase RNA, RNA, and contains an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to 500 contiguous amino acids in SEQ. ID NO:2.
92. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 91, comprising a promoter sequence operably linked to the sequence that encodes said TRT protein.
93. *(Previously presented)* An isolated cell comprising the recombinant polynucleotide of claim 91.
94. *(Previously presented)* The cell of claim 93, which is a eukaryotic cell.
95. CANCELLED
96. *(Withdrawn)* A method of increasing the proliferative capacity of a cell, comprising expressing in the cell a polynucleotide according to claim 91.
- 97 to 100. CANCELLED

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101. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 75, wherein said TRT protein contains a sequence that is at least 95% identical to 100 contiguous amino acids in SEQ. ID NO:2.
102. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 75, wherein said TRT protein contains a sequence that is at least 98% identical to 100 contiguous amino acids in SEQ. ID NO:2.
103. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 75, wherein said TRT protein contains a sequence that is at least 95% identical to 500 contiguous amino acids in SEQ. ID NO:2.
104. *(Previously presented)* The polynucleotide of claim 75, wherein said TRT protein contains a sequence that is at least 98% identical to 500 contiguous amino acids in SEQ. ID NO:2.